

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

21.12-03 H. Dockson

In re the Application of: Susumu TAKAHASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3739

Serial No.: 09/941,984

Examiner: John P. LEUBECKER

Filed: August 30, 2001

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 7633

For: STEREOENDOSCOPE WHEREIN IMAGES HAVING PASSED THROUGH PLURAL INCIDENT PUPILS ARE TRANSMITTED BY COMMON RELAY

OPTICAL SYSTEMS

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT <u>DATED January 7, 2003</u>

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: February 5, 2003

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated January 7, 2003.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1, 2, 4 and 19; and Group (II), Claims 44, 51-53, 55 and 56.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), Claims 1, 2, 4 and 19 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

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In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

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MRQ/lrj

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE